suggestions, with regard to certain low cost non-hazardous agro technique for qagrarian prosperity. The position that a number of recommendations like use of bio-fertilizers, crop residue management, control of diseases and pests through biological control, manipulation of agro-techniques and use of crop resistance varieties, etc. are already being practised to the extent possible. Further it had always been the endeavour of the Government to suggest cost effective agricultural strategies practices to the farming community for not only to sustain but also to increase food-grain production in the country.

Control of Left blight epidemic in Crops

505. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that leef blight epidemic in crops can be controlled by the cow dung slurry spray in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to popularise the technology among the farmers throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such effective technology has been developed so far by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Agricultural Universities.

Promotion of Agro forestry and Orchards

506. SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote agro-forestry and orhards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is promoting agro-forestry and orchards in the country under following project:—

(i) National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Areas.

(ii) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project.

(iii) Integrated Watershed management in the Catchments of Floods Prone River.

(iv) Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Zone and Temperate Fruits.

(v) Elimination of Jhum cultivation in Nagaland.

(vi) Establishment of nutritional gardens in rural areas.

Crop Insurance Scheme

507. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a crop insurance policy on experimental basis in 1991-92;

(b) if so, the areas and crops for which the scheme was implemented;

(c) the achievements of the scheme till date and whether this scheme is to be expanded to included all the crops and areas of Haryana; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The present Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is in force in the country since 1-4-1965. The scheme is an area based and credit linked scheme applicable to all

loanned farmers, who avail of loans from institutional sources to grow wheat, paddy, millets, oilseeds and pulses crops.

(c) and (d): Under the CCIS, so far, from Kharif 1985 to the end of Kharif 1992 season, 346.95 lakh farmers have been covered over an area of 6.07.39 lakh ha. insuring a sum of Rs. 7939.95 crore. The State Government of Haryana is not implementing the CCIS since its inception. Recently, it has been decided that while the existing CCIS may continue, a pilot scheme charging actuarial rates of premia, covering all farmers and 11 crops may be implemented in one district of every State, preferably at a low unit area. The scheme is likely to be finalised shortly.

मध्य प्रदेश में अमृत धारा योजना के अधीन कुंओं का निर्माण

508. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने अमृत धारा योजना के अंतर्गत 2,200 कुंओं का निर्माण किए जाने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से 3.3 करोड़ रुपए की वित्तीय सहायता देने का अनुरोध किया था ;

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को यह वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की है; यदि हां, तो कब और कितनी; और

(ग) लक्ष्य के अनुसार अभी तक कितने कुंओं का निर्माण किया गया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविन्द नेताम) : (क) और (ख) छोटे एवं सीमान्त कृषकों की सहायता की योजना के अधीन, राज्य सरकारों से अनुरोध किया गया कि वे केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गए दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार छोटे एवं सीमान्त कृषकों के लिए समुचित योजनाओं के प्रस्ताव करें। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को कुल 26.22 करोड़ रुपए आवंटित किये गये। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने संपूर्ण राशि के लिए छः योजनायें अग्रसारित की जिसमें एक 'अमृत धारा' शीर्षक के 15.72 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से 7,860 खुदे कुंओं के निर्माण का कार्यक्रम प्रस्तावित था। सभी योजनायें स्वीकृत कर दी गई हैं और राज्य सरकार को प्रथम किस्त के रूप में 11.16 करोड़ रुपए की राशि नियुक्त कर दी गई है।

(ग) राज्य सरकार से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वह कार्यान्वयन की प्रगति सूचित करे।

Increase in Fertilizer prices

509. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether increase in fertilizer prices has affected the consumption of plant nutrients in the wheat belt of the country;

(b) whether due to this Government envisages any loss in production and productivity in the Rabi season of the year;

(cc) if so, what is going to be the estimated loss; and

(d) what steps have Government taken to avert this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a): Consumption of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers has declined during the current Rabi season.

(b) and (c): It is too early to quantify any loss in the production and productivity of wheat during the current Rabi season.

(d): Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs. 340 crores to the State Governments for sale of decontrolled fertilizers at concessional rates.